

## **WATER CONSERVATION UPDATE**



**Water 2025 Grant Check Ceremony, Yuma Crossing State Historic Park, December 20, 2005**

### **Yuma Area Water 2025 Challenge Grant Awards Recognized**

Three water districts in the Yuma area were recognized as winners of the 2005 Water 2025 Challenge Grants at a ceremony held at the Yuma Crossing State Historic Park on December 20, 2005. Bob Johnson, Regional Director for the Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region, presented ceremonial checks to the Imperial Irrigation District, Yuma County Water Users' Association, and Bard Water District.

Joining Johnson for the event was Ron Derma, Manager, and Jake Colvin, Board Member, Bard Water District; Charlie Hosken, General Manager, and Mike King, Water Department Manager, Imperial Irrigation District; and Don Pope, Manager, Ed Carpenter, Water Master, Charles Cowan, Project Manager, and Jim Cuming, Board President, of the Yuma County Water Users' Association.

- The Imperial Irrigation District will use its \$229,680 grant as part of an \$857,548 project to install remotely-operated automatic gates at the heads of 10 lateral canals on the Central Main Canal. The project will also link the automatic gates into an existing Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system. This project is estimated to save 115 acre-feet of water annually.
- The Yuma County Water Users' Association will use its \$300,000 grant as part of a \$2 million project to line 5.8 miles of canals. The project will reduce seepage losses and increase water delivery efficiency, saving approximately 7,600 acre-feet of water annually.
- The Bard Water District's \$300,000 grant will help fund a \$909,840 project to replace 1/2 mile of unlined canal on Quechan Tribal lands with pipe line. The district will also replace two check gates on the Reservation Main Canal and install four high water



alarms. This project is anticipated to save 195 acre-feet of water annually.

Water 2025 Challenge Grants - administered by the Bureau of Reclamation - provide water management agencies throughout the West with matching funds to support a variety of projects to make more efficient use of existing water supplies through water conservation, efficiency improvement, and water marketing projects.

## **Water Conservation Program Request for Grant Proposals 2006**

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Yuma Area Office is requesting proposals to fund projects for activities in support of its Water Conservation Program within the Yuma area in Federal fiscal year 2006.

Eligible applicants include agricultural and/or municipal/industrial water districts, and small entities (public or private) that have contracts for water with Reclamation, Native American Tribes, universities, states, local governments, and non-profit organizations.

To be eligible for financial assistance, a proposed activity must meet all of the following criteria:

1. The applicant must be an entity currently involved in the development or implementation of water management or water conservation practices;
2. The project must be located within the Yuma Area Office administrative boundaries; and
3. The applicant must share in the cost of the project at least 50%. Cost share may be in cash or in-kind contributions of services, equipment, labor, and materials.

It is anticipated that between three and five cooperative agreements will be awarded for the Yuma area depending on the grant amount of funding requested by successful proposals. Total funding for the program is \$175,000.

Deadline for submission of an application is March 31, 2006. Proposals must be evaluated on a competitive basis. Funding period for each grant is two years. It is anticipated that awards will be made before May 1, 2006.

To apply for a 2006 Water Conservation Program grant you can go online to the following website: [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). Search by this name: Water Conservation Program-Yuma Area or by funding opportunity number: 06SF340003.

For assistance in writing a grant proposal in Arizona, please contact the Lower Colorado River Resource Conservation & Development Council: Danny Markus (USDA-NRCS) at 928-669-9826 x 101. In California, contact the Southern Low Desert Resource Conservation & Development Council: Sam Cobb (USDA-NRCS) at 760-391-9002.

For questions on this request for proposals, please contact the YAO Grants and Cooperative Agreements Representative, Gerald Casares, at 928-343-8262 or by email at [gcasares@lc.usbr.gov](mailto:gcasares@lc.usbr.gov).



**Long-throated flume designed, pre-cast, and placed by the Yuma County Water Users Association; in the Cuming Lateral. This structure was paid for in part by their 2004 Water 2025 grant program.**



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Bureau of Reclamation